

# WORKPLACE CONNECTION

" ENRICHING LIVES "

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## CEO, LACERA Staff Honored by Metro

CEO Bill Fujioka, far right, congratulates Candace Baird, Office of Workplace Programs, who received a Metro Diamond Award for promoting Ridesharing in the Civic Center. At right, staff members of LACERA, who implement its Rideshare program strategies, received a Diamond Award and are congratulated by Craig Hirakawa, Countywide Transportation Program manager.



## County's MOD Campaign on Track to Meet Goal

The County's 2009 March of Dimes Campaign is on track to meet its goal of \$250,000, according to CEO Bill Fujioka, co-chair.

"Departments and coordinators are still collecting donations and have not completed their internal campaigns," he said. "The hospitals and clinics just recently finished the Med-Walks."

March of Dimes Los Angeles also has not tallied all of the donations received so far from various County Departments, including the Chief Executive Office.

There have been several Countywide events held in support of the campaign, including the "Up" Disney movie premiere, "County Night at Dodger Stadium" on Friday, April 17 and "March for Babies" on Saturday, April 25.

County employees purchased more than 260 tickets to the multiple showings of "Up" at the El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood.

CEO Fujioka threw out the first pitch at "County Night" and was joined by the top winning departments: DPSS (Jake



CEO Fujioka, above, left, returns the microphone to Sherri Shepherd, co-host of ABC-TV's "The View," after addressing the March for Babies crowd at Exposition Park.

Photos by Scott Harms



Photo by Henry Salazar

Popular Dodgers player Matt Kemp, rear, center, welcomes CEO Fujioka, Mrs. Darlene Fujioka and members of the County team to "County Night at Dodger Stadium."

See **Campaign** continued on page 2

## MTA Board Funds Gold Line Extension

**O**n a motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Metro board members allocated \$10 million for construction of the Metro Gold Line Foothill extension.

"I have to give credit to the San Gabriel Valley people who kept showing up to meetings to lobby for this (funding)," said Supervisor Antonovich.

Construction on the 24-mile extension is expected to begin later this year, according to officials of the Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority.

Talks will continue between Metro and the Authority on finding more funding to extend the line all the way to Claremont.

Funding for the \$10 million allocation will come from Measure R, the half-cent sales tax increase approved by voters in November, 2008 to pay for transit-projects.



Sachi Hamai, left, center, Executive Officer/Board of Supervisors and March of Dimes campaign co-chair, is joined by staff members at the March for Babies, while, at right, Acting Personnel Officer Lisa Garrett prepares to walk with DHR staff Marian Hall, Linda Hopkins and Sandra Blaydow.



Photo by Scott Harms



Supporting the March for Babies are ISD Director Tom Tindall, Interim CIO Richard Sanchez, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Dean Logan and Parks and Recreation Director Russ Guiney.

**Campaign** continued from page 1

Aguilar), honorary catcher, Regional Planning (Nick Franchino), honorary coach, and Health Services (John Schunhoff, Ph.D), honorary manager.

Angele Price represented March of Dimes Los Angeles. Victoria Pipkin-Lane and Craig Hirakawa, CEO Workplace Programs, were the team manager and assistant coach, respectively.

Also participating were Department Coordinators Alma Guadalupe, DPSS, Sherry Tuminaro, DHS-High Desert Hospital, Azniv Hanesoghlian, Regional Planning and Elaine Elizalde, CEO Workplace Programs. The "County Night" fundraiser raised nearly \$9,000 for the March of Dimes.

See **Campaign** continued on page 6



## Keep L.A. Running...

SEIU Local 721 will sponsor "Keep LA Running Day" on Sunday, July 12, 2009 at Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey. For more information, visit [www.keeplarunning.com](http://www.keeplarunning.com).



Chief Deputy Mike Dyer, Fire Department, right, and members of the County March of Dimes team prepare to March for Babies at Exposition Park.

Photo by Scott Harms





Photos by Henry Salazar

At left, Col. Joseph Smith and Jo Richardson, Military and Veterans Affairs, congratulate honoree Glen Roosevelt, left, and his wife, Patricia; and, center, CEO Fujioka joins Supervisors Molina, Antonovich and Knabe in recognizing CEO youth volunteer Mia Vasquez while, at right, Supervisor Knabe welcomes Fourth District honorees to the event.

## Outstanding Volunteers Honored by Board at Annual Luncheon

“Volunteers are Sun-sational” was the theme of the 27th annual Volunteer of the Year Recognition and Awards ceremony held recently in the Grand Hall, Dorothy Chandler of the Music Center.

The 80 adult and youth honorees received congratulations and scrolls from all Board members—Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman, Supervisor Gloria Molina, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavy and Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, whose motion in 1981 created the program.

Volunteers donated hours to a wide range of County programs that benefited the community, including the District Attorney’s Victim-Witness Assistance program, the Crime Scene Search Unit and the Montrose Search and Rescue Team of the Sheriff’s Department, Marina del Rey’s annual Holiday Boat Parade, Jesse Owens and Athens Parks, the Topanga Coalition for Emergency Preparedness and “Movie Day Mondays” at William Steinmetz Park’s Senior Center.

They also contributed volunteer hours to the philanthropic

**Volunteers** continued on page 5



Photo by Rhead Lowm

Serving as volunteers for the annual recognition luncheon are, first row, from left, Latisha Sturges, RR/CC, Elaine Elizalde, CEO, Kathy Cady, District Attorney, Cathy Stapleton and Melinda Contreras, Sheriff, and Andrea Clark Nicholas and Victoria Pipkin-Lane, CEO; second row, from left, Patricia Mannatt, CEO, Rohmi Reid, Animal Care and Control, Anne Maria Tafoya, CEO, Ester Bryant, EO/BOS, Frances Rodriguez, Public Works, Cynthia Machen, CCJCC, Manny Moreno, Parks & Recreation, and Rolando Cruz, Natural History Museum; and third row, from left, Juan Arredondo, CEO, Catrina Love, Beaches & Harbors, Ida Morrow, DHS-MLK Center, Shelly Thompson, CDC, Gina Villegas, CEO, Bernice Hill Shepherd, DHS-Harbor UCLA, Sherry Tuminaro, DHS-High Desert, Esperanza Hernandez, Consumer Affairs, and Craig Hirakawa, CEO.



Photo by Scott Harms

CEO Bill Fujioka, center, rallies the County team at the March of Dimes “March for Babies” fundraiser held in Exposition Park. County Department heads supporting the walk are, from left, Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman, co-chair, Sachi Hamai, Executive Officer/Board of Supervisors and co-chair, Cynthia Banks, Community and Senior Services Director, Janice Fukai, Alternate Public Defender, Dennis Tafoya, Office of Affirmative Action Director, Dean Logan, Registrar/Recorder/County Clerk, Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, M.D., Coroner, and Philip Browning, Department of Public Social Services Director and co-chair.





At left, Liliana Otanez of Public Works helped Baldwin Park Shelter staff feed and walk dogs; while, center and right, Supervisor Gloria Molina commends Probation Department staff for overseeing the annual Cesar Chavez Week essay contest.

## Record Number of Employees Volunteer for Cesar Chavez Week

A total of 370 County employees volunteered during the eighth annual Cesar Chavez Community Service Week, a 53 percent increase over the 196, who participated last year.

Public Library led all departments with 99 people, followed by Beaches and Harbors, 94, Parks and Recreation, 77, and Animal Care and Control, 71. The community organizations were led by Volunteers of East Los Angeles (VELA) with 17 volunteers, followed by United Way of Greater Los Angeles, eight, and the Brotherhood Crusade, four.

More than 21,400 pounds of food items and products were donated as part of



Public Works employee Renee Perez reshelves books at La Puente Library.

the annual food drive. The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank held a luncheon to recognize County Departments for their contributions.

"With a struggling economy, we are serving more and more families at our facilities," said Darren Hoffman,



Public Works employee Mary Garcia posts upcoming event information at Ruben Salazar Park.

communications director for the Food Bank. "The items donated by County employees will be distributed to local

See **Chavez** continued on page 6

Photos by Monticello Miller



County team members from various departments get ready to participate in the annual March of Dimes "March for Babies" fundraiser held recently at Exposition Park.

Photo by Scott Harris

## Board Approves Supervisor's Motion to Study, Restore Compton Creek Ecosystem



Supervisor  
Mark Ridley-Thomas

Compton Creek Ecosystem.

A segment of the creek retains a natural river bottom, but a majority of the waterway has been paved with concrete and surrounding lands have been almost completely developed.

"Recreational opportunities along the creek are limited, water quality

On a motion by Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, the Board of Supervisors has approved sending a letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers seeking a study on restoring the

is degraded and water conservation opportunities have not been realized," said Supervisor Ridley-Thomas. "Open space and natural resources, such as plant and wildlife, have been greatly reduced as well," he said.

"Restoring the creek to its natural state will serve as a valuable educational, recreational and public health and economic asset for the County," said the Supervisor.

The County Flood Control District and other County agencies will report back to the Board with a description of project management, governance, budget and a timeline.

## CCWeek Volunteers



County employees plant new flowers and spruce up Adventure Park in Whittier as part of Cesar Chavez Community Service Week

**Volunteers** continued from page 3

guild at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, County Counsel's Dependency Division, Los Angeles Superior Court's Court Appointed Special Advocates program, the Natural History Museum and the Acton Rehabilitation Center.

Cub Scout Pack 94, Youth honorees, was recognized for their volunteer service which included helping victims of the Marek and Sayre fires last year even though many of their families were evacuated.



Fire Capt. Mike Brown, right, joins Supervisors Molina, Antonovich and Knabe in recognizing volunteer Larry Cummings.

## Donations Sought for Toy Loan Program

New toys, books as well as monetary contributions are being sought by the Toy Loan program, which is sponsored by the Department of Public Social Services.

"We are reaching out to all employees, seeking their support of this important community program," said Philip Browning, DPSS director. "Playground barrels are placed in County offices for individuals to donate new, unwrapped toys."

Monetary donations will be used to purchase math games, science and role-playing toys as well as board games, sports equipment and interactive toys.

The program serves about 2,000 low-income children monthly, who do not have access to skill-building toys.

Checks should be made payable to Toy Loan Advisory Board and sent to 2615 S. Grand Ave., Second Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90007-2608. Additional information about the program is available from Idalia Almeida, coordinator, at (213) 744-4344 or [idaliaalmeida@dpss.lacounty.gov](mailto:idaliaalmeida@dpss.lacounty.gov).



District Attorney Steve Cooley, left, joins Supervisors Molina, Antonovich and Knabe to recognize volunteer Leonor Martinez.



Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, second from right, welcomes veteran broadcaster Tony Cox, left, and commends honorees Jordan Dixon and Tony Lateef.



Cub Scout Pack 94, youth honorees, led the Pledge of Allegiance at the volunteer luncheon. Donna Neff, Assessor's office, escorted by CEO employee Ruben Rivero, sang the National Anthem.



**Campaign** continued from page 2

More than 500 employees turned out for the March for Babies at Exposition Park where CEO Fujioka acknowledged the County Department Heads in attendance and rallied the County team prior to the official start of the fundraiser.

In attendance were campaign co-chairs Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman, Sachi Hamai, EO/BOS, and Philip Browning, DPSS, as well as Janice Fukai, APD, Dennis Tafoya, OAAC, Cynthia Banks, CSS, Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, M.D., Coroner, Lisa Garrett, DHR, Tom Tindall, ISD, Richard Sanchez, CIO, Dean Logan, RR/CC, and Russ Guiney, Parks and Recreation. Lois Yoon of Regional Planning sang the National Anthem.

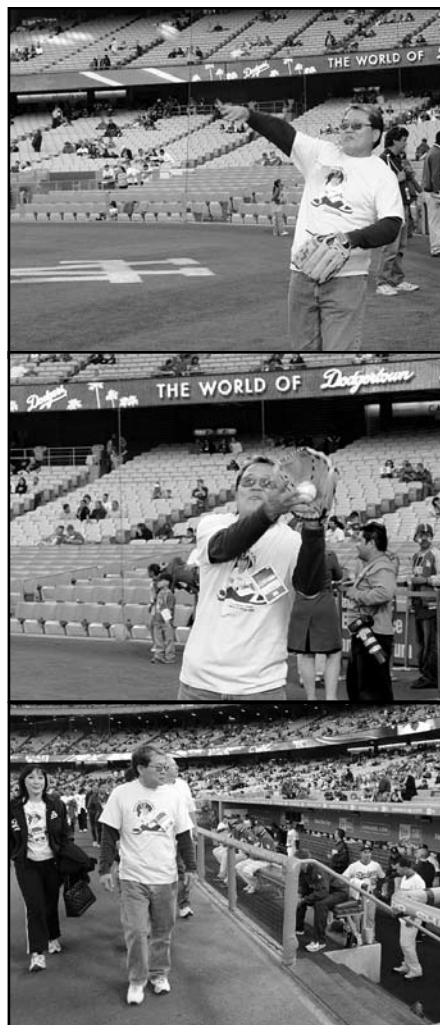
**Chavez** continued from page 4

residents in need.”

Top County Departments by category for the food drive were DPSS, 4,210 pounds; Public Library, 1,905; Auditor-Controller, 740; and Consumer Affairs, 104.

Ruben Rivero, CEO Workplace Programs, received a Countywide Coordinator award for outstanding leadership.

Supervisor Gloria Molina introduced the Board motion to honor Cesar Chavez. The Supervisor also commended Probation Department staff at a recent Board meeting for the art and essay contest conducted at juvenile camps and in the schools.



CEO Bill Fujioka prepares to throw out the first pitch at “County Night” and then leads the County team off the field at Dodgers Stadium.

## County Rideshare Survey

**D**uring the months of July and August, the County will conduct its annual Average Vehicle Ridership (AVR) survey at sites that have 100 or more County employees.

The AVR survey is an important component of the County’s Employee Commute Reduction Program, commonly known as Rideshare.

The survey is conducted annually as required by the County’s Trip Reduction Ordinance and the South Coast Air Quality Management District’s Rule 2202.

Worksites with more than 250 employees will use the survey data to complete their annual SCAQMD Rule 2202 trip reduction plans.

## 2009 Timeline for the County Rideshare Program

Survey Weeks (Sites to select one week to survey)	July 20-August 31, 2009
Southern California Rideshare Week	October 5-9, 2009
L.A. County Civic Center Clean Air/Rideshare Fair (Mall area, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration)	October 15, 2009
Rule 2202 Trip Reduction Plans due to SCAQMD (Regulated County Sites)	December 1, 2009

## Calendar of Events

### “Countywide AVR Survey Workshop” (All ETCs)

**Wednesday, July 14, 2009**  
Arboretum of Los Angeles County  
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Ayres Hall  
Arcadia

### “G-Force” Movie Premiere

**July 25-26, August 1-2, 2009**  
Tickets: \$16  
El Capitan Theatre, Hollywood

### “Green Tech Connect Forum” (Sponsored by SCAQMD)

**August 3-4, 2009**  
Pasadena Convention Center

### “Civic Center Clean Air/Rideshare Fair”

**Thursday, October 15, 2009**  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Mall Area  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Downtown Los Angeles

### “HomeWalk”

(Sponsored by United Way of Greater Los Angeles)

**Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009, 7:30 a.m.**  
Exposition Park (Jefferson Blvd. @ Figueroa St.), Los Angeles  
[www.homewalkla.org](http://www.homewalkla.org)



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